

In the Claims

1-16. (cancelled)

17. (new) A hydromechanical drive for generating feed movements of strip filter material as a function of prevailing pressure of fluid to be filtered, comprising:

a hydraulic accumulator having a movable separating element separating a first accumulator space from a second accumulator space in said accumulator, said first accumulator space being supplied with pressure of fluid to be filtered;

an actuating mechanism converting movement of said separating element to a feed movement of strip filter material; and

a pressure control generating in said second accumulator space a pressure lower than a pressure affecting movement of said separating element as a function of pressure or extent of fouling of the fluid to be filtered, said pressure control having first and second fluid connections into said second accumulator space, said first fluid connection providing pressure to said second accumulator space less than pressure in said first accumulator space, said second fluid connection providing pressure to said second accumulator space of pressure in said first accumulator space, said pressure control also including a control valve actuated by movement of said separating element to open said first fluid connection and to close said second fluid connection when said separating element is in a first end position and to close said first fluid connection and to open said second fluid connection when said separating element is in an opposite, second end position.

18. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 17 wherein
said second fluid connection and said first accumulator space are connected to the fluid to
be filtered.

19. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 18 wherein
said second fluid connection is connected to a pressure control valve adjustable to a
pressure valve lower than pressure of fluid to be filtered at said second fluid connection.

20. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 17 wherein
said first fluid connection is connected to filtered fluid passed and filtered through strip-
like filter material, said filtered fluid having a pressure lower than pressure of the fluid to be
filtered.

21. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 17 wherein
said control valve is connected to said movable separating element by a kinetic
mechanism for reversing said control valve only when said movable separating element is in one
of said end positions.

22. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 17 wherein
said kinetic mechanism comprises an over-center tilting mechanism that essentially
instantaneously opens and closes said first and second fluid connections.

23. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 17 wherein
a spring biases said movable separating element towards said first end position.
24. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 23 wherein
said actuating mechanism comprises an actuating rod that reciprocates along a
longitudinal axis thereof and that is connected to said movable separating element.
25. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 24 wherein
said actuating mechanism comprises a ratchet drive including a ratchet wheel drivable in
only one rotational direction by reciprocating movement of said actuating rod, said ratchet wheel
being connected to a winding shaft for driving a strip filter material roll coupled thereto.
26. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 25 wherein
said ratchet drive is mounted on a pivotally mounted rocker for displacement of a
winding shaft rotational axis to adapt to different roll diameters of strip filter material.
27. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 17 wherein
said hydraulic accumulator comprises a port in fluid communication with said first
accumulator space and with a space containing fluid to be filtered by strip filter material.

28. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 27 wherein

said control valve is connected to said movable separating element by a kinetic mechanism for reversing said control valve only when said movable separating element is in one of said end positions;

said kinetic mechanism comprises an over-center tilting mechanism that essentially instantaneously opens and closes said first and second fluid connections; and

said separating element is coupled to a control component of said tilting mechanism.

29. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 17 wherein

said hydraulic accumulator is a diaphragm accumulator.

30. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 29 wherein

said control valve is connected to said movable separating element by a kinetic mechanism for reversing said control valve only when said movable separating element is in one of said end positions;

said kinetic mechanism comprises an over-center tilting mechanism that essentially instantaneously opens and closes said first and second fluid connections;

said separating element is coupled to a control component of said tilting mechanism; and

a pressure plate rests against a diaphragm of said diaphragm accumulator, and is coupled to said control component.

31. (new) A hydromechanical drive according to claim 30 wherein
said tilting mechanism and said control valve are mounted in said second accumulator
space.